

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Daniel J. Capon and Christos J. Petropoulos
Serial No. : Continuation of 09/371,774
Filed : June 5, 2001
For : COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR DETERMINING ANTI-VIRAL DRUG SUSCEPTIBILITY AND RESISTANCE AND ANTI-VIRAL DRUG SCREENING

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
June 5, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Box: Patent Applications

SIR:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification

Please amend the specification under the provisions of 37 CFR \$1.121(b) by deleting the paragraph on page 1, lines 1-8, and replacing the above-identified paragraph with the paragraph presented in clean form as follows:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/371,774, filed August 10, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Serial No. 08/903,507, filed July 30, 1997, now abandoned, which was a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Serial No. 08/790,963, filed January 29, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,837,464, issued November 17, 1998, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/010,715, filed January 29, 1996. The content of these applications are incorporated herein by

Applicants : Daniel J. Capon and Christos J. Petropoulos
Serial No. : Not Yet Known
Filed : Herewith
Page 2

reference.

The changes to the specification for the subject paragraph are set forth and attached as **Exhibit A**, which has been marked up to show the changes relative to the previous paragraph in the specification.

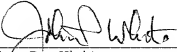
In the Claims

Please cancel claims 5-9, 11, 12, 18-27, 29, 30, 32, 33, 36, 38-71, 73, 75, 77-82, and 85-217 without prejudice or disclaimer to applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a future continuation or divisional application.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone at the number provided below.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment. However, if any additional fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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